

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 184203

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ORIGIN SS-25

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S/S-O:AWOTTO

NEA - MR ATHERTON

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Z 242305Z JUL 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 184203

EXDIS, FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AEMR, LE, US, SY

SUBJECT: EVACUATION FROM BEIRUT

1. YOU SHOULD INFORM SYRIANS URGENTLY THAT WE ARE GOING TO PROCEED WITH EVACUATION OF U.S. AND OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS FROM WEST BEIRUT BY SEA ON MORNING TUESDAY, JULY 27. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE MADE BY EMBASSY BEIRUT SHORTLY, AS WELL AS BROADCASTS BY VOA AND BBC. OPERATION WILL BE CONDUCTED IN SAME MANNER AS JUNE 20 SEABORNE EVACUATION, I.E., USING UNARMED U.S. NAVAL LANDING CRAFT TO CONVEY EVACUEES FROM RAS BEIRUT TO MOTHER SHIP LAYING OFFSHORE. PLO HAS ASSURED US IT WILL COOPERATE IN FACILITATING THE EVACUATION BY SEA.

2. YOU SHOULD, IN CONCLUSION, TELL THE SYRIANS THAT WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THEIR ADVICE AND THEIR READINESS TO ASSIST IN OVERLAND EVACUATION, HAD WE IN FACT USED THE CONVOY ROUTE. ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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